

he became President of the National Bank of Texas, which previous to his becoming its principal officer, was on the verge of bankruptcy. Through the great business qualifications and energy of Mr. Kopperl, aided by a few stockholders who have since continued its direction, it has become a safe and solid financial institution. He served in the Aldermanic Council of the city of Galveston as Chairman of the Committee on Finance, and by his good management the city credit was soon re-established. In addition to discharging the onerous duties of bank president and the supervision of a large business as an importer of coffee from Rio de Janeiro, he also found time to serve his state. He was a member of the Congressional Convention at Corsicana that nominated Judge Willie for Congress, and also a delegate to the National Convention that nominated Horace Greely for president of the United States. In November, 1876, he was elected to the State Legislature, was made chairman of the committee on finance, and as such procured the passage of certain measures which greatly increased the credit of the State and enabled him to effect the sale of \$500,000 State six per cent bonds at the then unprecedentedly high figure of 102 1-2. Mr. Kopperl was distinguished through life for sterling integrity of character, great sagacity and public spirit. In October, 1877, he was made President of the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railroad, which position he was only induced to accept for the purpose of reconciling the unfortunate differences which had arisen between the directors and the County Court, resulting in a suit against the company, which, if continued, threatened to destroy the enterprise. At the time of his acceptance of the presidency the road was without means, credit or prospects, yet by his untiring energy and at the sacrifice of his time and health, and even at the risk of his own private means and reputation, he carried the road over this critical period, until its success was assured. In 1879 he declined a re-election as president.

During the following three years Mr. Kopperl was not in good health, and in the June of 1882 he determined to make a visit to Europe, with a hope that in a relaxation from the cares of business he might recuperate his wasted strength and again enter upon a field of usefulness. This was not to be, for on July 3rd 1883, he died at Bayreuth, Bavaria. His death, judging from the newspaper reports at the time, was looked upon as a public calamity, for besides Mr. Kopperl's commercial standing he was known far and wide for his honesty, integrity and charity. He took a lively interest in all local charitable institutions, and also contributed to many others all over the country. He was one of the promoters of the Protestant Orphans' Home of Galveston and a most liberal supporter thereof. His munificence endowed the Kopperl Infirmary, an adjunct to the "Home." In all his charitable deeds he was aided by his helpmate, to whom charity knows no creed. His private benefactions must have been numerous, judging by the number that have come to light since his death. He bequeathed sums of money to communal institutions, which were duly paid over by his widow and executrix, who still survives him, Mrs. Isabella Kopperl.

A marble monument in the Jewish cemetery at Galveston marks the

mortal remains of Moritz Kopperl, upon which is graven that beautiful expression of Leigh Hunt, so appropriate to the memory of him who lies beneath:

—"Write me then,
As one who loved his fellow-men."

Dr. Arthur S. Wolff, the present State quarantine officer at Brownsville, Texas (Point Isabel, Brazos Santiago), was born in Lyons, France, in 1824. He received his degrees of

Licentiate in Surgery and Health Officer at the School of Medicine in Paris in 1846. In 1848 the diploma of M. D. was granted him by the faculty of Medicine in Paris. In the same year he was appointed surgeon of the line (139), and was major of the Third Regiment of Chasseurs d'Afrique from January 14th 1849, till December 12th 1849. He subsequently left Paris for London via Brussels. In 1851, after being licensed and registered as a physician in London, he married Sarah Ansell, daughter of

Jacob Ansell and Rachel Isaacs, cousin of the late Rev. S. M. Isaacs of New York. He practiced in London for some years, and in 1859 he settled in New York, where he lectured on military surgery at the College of Physicians and Surgeons. In 1861 he was appointed surgeon of the Fifty-fifth Regiment, N. Y. In 1866 he was appointed chief medical officer of the New York State Prison (Clinton), and since then has been elected to membership in many medical societies both national and local.

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